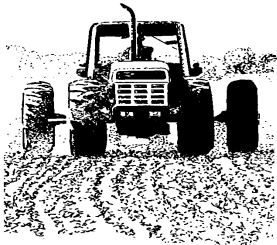


TENNESSEE WEEKLY  
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



Released Weekly April - November

2005 Weather Crop 25

Issued 3:00 P.M. 09/19/2005

Week Ending September 18, 2005

COTTON HARVEST UNDERWAY

Harvest of the State’s cotton crop, projected at 635,000 acres, got underway on a limited basis last week. Defoliation picked up speed, staying on pace with the 5-year average. Tennessee corn producers made excellent strides last week as warm, dry conditions allowed them to harvest an additional 18 percent of the State’s acreage. Farmers continued to report average to slightly above average yields. Tobacco growers also took advantage of the last week’s favorable weather to continue harvest. Currently, almost two-thirds of the soybean crop was dropping leaves, while 14 percent has been harvested. In addition to harvest activities, farmers were active seeding fall pastures, spreading lime, and preparing fields for planting small grains. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 10 percent very short, 20 percent short, 61 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 9 percent very short, 26 percent short, 61 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Last week, temperatures across Tennessee averaged above normal, while rainfall averaged above normal only in the western portion of the State.

CROP PROGRESS: Through September 18, 2005					CONDITION: On September 16, 2005					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2004	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn - Mature	92	84	94	95	Soybeans	4	8	29	47	12
Corn - Grain Harvested	40	22	56	59	Cotton	0	3	20	59	18
Corn - Silage Harvested	92	87	92	93	Pastures	6	18	42	32	2
Soybeans - Dropping Leaves	64	49	37	35						
Soybeans - Harvested	14	7	8	4						
Cotton - Bolls Opening	74	55	52	71						
Cotton Defoliated	32	10	16	35						
Cotton Harvested	2	0	2	6						
Burley Tobacco Harvested	78	66	75	79						
Burley Tobacco Stripped	3	n/a	1	2						
Fire-Cured Tobacco Harvested	78	66	84	81						
Air-Cured Tobacco Harvested	85	69	94	90						

n/a = Not Available

**CORN:** Over 90 percent of the corn silage acreage has been harvested with grain harvest 40 percent complete. There were a few reports in West Tennessee of harvest difficulty due to stalks having been blown over from Hurricane Katrina winds. With grain harvest about a week behind normal, yields were reported as highly variable depending on location.

**COTTON:** Growers continued to prepare for harvest last week by defoliating an additional 22 percent of the State’s acreage. Although harvest has begun on a limited basis, growers should pick up the pace over the next few weeks, as weather permits.

**SOYBEANS:** Soybeans continued to develop ahead of normal with nearly two-thirds of the acreage dropping leaves. Harvest was underway on a limited scale and should pick up speed this coming week. The crop was rated in mostly fair-to- good condition.

**TOBACCO:** Just over three-fourths of the State’s burley acreage has been harvested with stripping now beginning. There were some reports of quality loss due to foliar diseases and wind damage.

**PASTURES & HAY:** Pastures in many areas of East Tennessee are very dry and need rain soon. The dry soil conditions have also delayed fall seeding. Some cattle producers in these areas were feeding hay to compensate for the shortage. Pastures statewide were rated in fair-to-good condition.

County Agent Quote

*“Producers made good strides is harvesting the 2005 corn crop and some producers have stopped corn harvest to start harvesting soybeans. Corn yields are all over the board based on rainfall and soil type. Early soybean yields are respectable but not exceptional. Producers were busy this week getting fields ready for wheat planting, re-seeding pastures, and spreading lime.”*

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending				Current		Current	Departure		
	September 18, 2005				Week	Rain	Since	From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	09/18/05	Days	January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	92	61	76	+5	1.36	2	41.04	+3.29	2449	+215
Tri-City_RGNL_A	90	52	71	+4	0.08	2	30.25	-0.27	1733	+190
Brownsville_TN	91	60	76	+4	2.40	2	37.92	+0.21	2533	+547
Chattanooga/Lov	92	60	77	+5	1.01	2	37.20	-1.65	2364	+224
Clarksville_Sew	89	57	74	+4	0.56	1	36.39	-0.06	2362	+360
Cookeville	89	55	73	+4	0.97	2	32.66	-8.81	1911	+656
Covington	90	58	75	+4	1.89	2	38.67	+1.83	2349	+73
Crossville_AP	87	53	72	+5	0.86	3	35.24	-5.36	1698	+275
Dickson_AG	88	52	72	+2	1.81	2	39.71	+0.75	1977	-108
Dover_1W	90	55	72	+3	1.32	1	35.10	-2.73	2196	+414
Dyersburg	91	57	74	+2	1.70	2	35.06	-0.94	2531	+116
Erwin_1W	89	53	71	+5	0.17	2	33.26	-3.74	1619	-212
Huntingdon_Wate	90	55	74	+4	1.60	1	39.08	+1.02	2270	+372
Jackson_Exp_Stn	90	59	75	+4	1.99	1	42.96	+5.53	2412	+229
Kingston_AG	90	59	75	+6	1.33	2	39.44	-3.11	1976	+324
Knoxville_AP	92	60	76	+6	0.92	2	29.98	-4.83	2181	+328
Lewisburg	92	55	74	+4	1.18	2	37.25	-2.18	2077	+213
Lexington_TN	90	57	74	+3	0.79	2	37.96	+1.51	2246	+900
Linden	90	54	75	+5	1.12	4	36.23	-3.76	2188	+312
Martin	91	57	75	+5	0.69	1	35.16	-2.79	2321	+231
Mc_Minnville_Tn	90	57	74	+4	1.03	2	31.65	-7.09	2146	-169
Memphis_AG	91	59	76	+3	0.01	1	38.32	+1.43	2588	-110
Milan	90	52	73	+3	1.40	1	40.53	+1.45	2228	+186
Murfreesboro_5N	91	58	75	+5	1.23	2	34.85	-3.85	2238	-70
Nashville_Metro	90	57	76	+4	0.60	1	32.70	-1.95	2482	+287
Newcomb	90	56	74	+8	0.27	3	37.11	-2.92	1832	+491
Oneida	89	57	73	+7	0.28	2	33.82	-6.21	1821	-151
Pikeville	89	57	74	+4	0.64	3	29.84	-8.99	2039	+225
Portland_TN	90	56	74	+5	0.35	1	42.10	+4.64	2187	+363
Pulaski_Water_P	92	57	75	+3	1.81	3	40.58	+0.99	2083	-101
Savannah_6SW	92	55	75	+2	3.05	2	39.96	-0.77	2264	+330
Sparta_TN	92	55	74	+6	1.12	3	32.91	-7.10	2128	+554
Springfield	91	55	73	+4	0.34	1	36.82	+0.87	2120	+294
Springhill	93	56	75	+5	0.67	2	39.25	-0.26	2199	+341
Union_City	89	53	72	+3	0.84	2	36.89	-0.09	2156	+131
Waynesboro_TN	90	57	74	+5	1.34	3	37.84	-3.66	2159	+60

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.      Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Copyright 2004: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved

The Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service gratefully acknowledges contributions to this publication by:  
National Weather Service, and the University of Tennessee's Extension Service.